

years in Alaska as an Intelligence Officer. Mr. Knudsen's family and military background reveals three paramount principles: the contribution of leaders, the cost of freedom, and the duty of citizens. Mr. Knudsen reflects the devotion of leaders—ordinary individuals with humble and selfless attitudes. As the benefactors of the gift of freedom, it is our duty to responsibly elect dependable leaders and to encourage military men and women. Because of dauntless leaders, Americans are blessed with the unparalleled gift of freedom. With the rich history of our nation and the devoted leaders of our generation, we hold great expectations for the continuance of duty, the cultivation of wisdom, and the conservation of our freedom.—Michelle Kim

HONORING ROBERT SELBY

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2010

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to posthumously commend and congratulate Robert Selby upon being awarded with the "Lifetime Achievement Award" by the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 9896. Mr. Selby was honored on Saturday, January 30, 2010 in Chowchilla, California.

Mr. Robert Selby was born in June 1936 in Sparta, Tennessee. In 1961, Mr. Selby enlisted in the United States Air Force. He was sent to Lackland Air Force Base, Texas for his basic training. He then completed training as a Jet Mechanic and Flight Engineer.

While fighting in Vietnam, Mr. Selby served with special Air Force units flying out of Nha Trang, Vietnam on covert missions into Laos and North Vietnam. His tour consisted of flying on many secret missions deep into enemy territory, inserting agents and hampering North Vietnamese communications in advance of U.S. bombing raids. During one particularly challenging mission on an HC-130, the aircraft was forced to fly low through heavy weather and mountainous terrain to drop supplies to combat forces. For his performance during this particular mission, Mr. Selby was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Upon returning to the United States after the war ended, Mr. Selby completed the Non-Commissioned Officers' Academy. Later, he completed the Command Staff Non-Commissioned Officers' Academy and Air Force Special Operations. Throughout his military career Mr. Selby completed many advanced training courses including, cross-training with the United States Army infantry units and the M-24 Tank, Advanced Flying Course in Turbo Propulsion, the Combat Talon, the Air Force Supervisor's Management Course, and the United States Air Force Trainer-Supervisor Course. He served on many aircraft, including the B-66 and the C-130, units and bases. He served with the 60th Military Air Wing, 8th Special Operations Service, 778th TAS, 42nd TRS and 10th TRW.

In October 1968, while serving with a C-130 squadron in Bermuda providing search and rescue missions, Mr. Selby was involved with the successful NASA Apollo 7 mission. Apollo 7 was launched and was the first manned mission. For eleven days, while the spacecraft orbited earth, Mr. Selby and squadron mates were available to assist if necessary.

Master Sergeant Selby retired from the Air Force in June 1981. For his service, Mr. Selby

was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal with four oak leaf clusters, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Air Force Commendation Medal, the Good Conduct Medal with four oak leaf clusters, Non-commissioned Officer Professional Military Education Ribbon, the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal with three bronze stars, the Republic of Vietnam Unit Cross of Gallantry with palm and device and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

Upon retirement, Mr. Selby worked for the Chowchilla Water District, and later, as a hydro-power operator. He was a Life Member of the Chowchilla Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9896, American Legion Post 248, the Disabled American Veterans, a member of the Chowchilla Masonic Lodge and the Civil Air Patrol. He served several terms as commander of the Chowchilla American Legion and VFW. He was an advocate of veterans' affairs and volunteered his time to take veterans to appointments in Fresno and Madera.

Mr. Selby passed away in the beginning of 2010. He is survived by his wife of fifty years, Shirley, two sons and three grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to posthumously honor the life of Robert Selby and congratulate him upon being named as a "Distinguished Life Member" by the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 9896.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE OAKLAND COUNTY HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF SERVICE TO THE RESIDENTS OF OAKLAND COUNTY

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2010

Mr. PETERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Oakland County Hospital Association (OCHA) on the occasion of its 100th year. As a Member of Congress it is both my privilege and honor to recognize the Oakland County Hospital Association for its century of work creating a stronger and healthier Oakland County.

At the beginning of the 20th Century the Oakland County Hospital Association was formed with the mission of meeting the health needs of all of Oakland County's residents. After nine years of planning, fundraising, and construction the Association opened Oakland County Hospital in Pontiac on May 18, 1910 to fulfill this mission. Over 100 years after it was founded, Oakland County Hospital, now Doctors' Hospital of Michigan, remains dedicated to providing quality care to its patients.

Known by many names over the years, Oakland County Hospital, Pontiac City Hospital, Pontiac General, North Oakland Medical Center and finally Doctors' Hospital, the facility has been an ever-present part of the greater Pontiac Oakland area as a symbol of community-focused medical treatment. With Doctors' Hospital continuing to serve patients at the original location of Oakland County Hospital, the mission of OCHA will continue to be fulfilled for many years to come.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Oakland County Medical Association. The Association has been an integral voice

over the past century in ensuring Oakland County residents have access to high quality health services and I wish the Association many more productive years of fighting to make Oakland County healthier and stronger.

H.R. 1132—THE SHORT LINE RAILROAD TAX CREDIT

HON. VERNON J. EHLERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2010

Mr. EHLERS. Madam Speaker, I rise to urge the House to take up and pass H.R. 1132, which would extend the short line railroad tax credit as soon as possible. This credit creates immediate jobs, leverages significant amounts of private infrastructure investment and helps preserve much needed rail service to rural and small town America.

This credit has produced significant results since its enactment in 2004. Unfortunately the credit expired at the end of 2009. Nationally there are over 500 short line railroads operating 50,000 miles or nearly one quarter of the country's rail network. In my own state of Michigan, short lines operate 52 percent of the states total rail network and almost all of that is in areas no longer served by the large Class I railroads. The majority of Michigan's agricultural products that move by rail move by short line rail.

Today's short lines are small businesses that saved the track the large national railroads would otherwise have abandoned. This tax credit has played a critical role in helping preserve this valuable transportation infrastructure. If we do not extend it soon, the 2010 work season will be lost and with it we will lose a very cost efficient way to create jobs and rehabilitate our rail infrastructure.

Currently, H.R. 1132 is co-sponsored by a bi-partisan majority of the House, 259 Members. Surely with that kind of support we can find a way to enact this legislation before it is too late to enjoy its benefits in 2010, a year in which Michigan desperately needs new jobs.

COMMEMORATING THE 95TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2010

Mr. WAXMAN. Madam Speaker, this week, we solemnly commemorate the 95th Anniversary of the beginning of the Armenian Genocide.

From 1915 to 1923, the Ottoman Government sought to destroy Armenian communities through a systematic campaign of terror. Men were separated from their families and murdered; women and children were forced to march across the Syrian Desert, and killed if they lagged behind. At the time, the United States took bold diplomatic, political, and humanitarian action to end the bloodshed and protect the survivors. Ninety-five years later, we must continue to take pride in our efforts and reaffirm our commitment to ending genocide and defending human rights for all.